

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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OWNERSHIP OF THE SEWERS

NOW that the county commissioners have dispatched the routine business awaiting them on taking office it is not asking too much for the town board to pay some attention to the offer of the Tonopah Sewer and Drainage company tendering the entire sewer system of Tonopah to the community at an appraisement to be fixed by an independent board of appraisers. There is nothing abstruse or complex about the offer. The assets of the company are readily ascertained, the service is known and the revenues are all matters on file with the public service commission at Carson City. The time is ripe for Tonopah to wake up and shake off its lethargy for the purpose of deciding whether the sewer system would be of greater value to the whole community than it is now operated without any regulation compelling connections and leaving the utilization a matter of individual choice. The first result would be to reduce the cost to every user and the second would be to give householders in the congested district a chance to extend the usefulness of the utility so that Tonopah would be improved 100 per cent in sanitation. The camp has been extremely fortunate in passing through the epidemic of influenza with a very low mortality. Science fails to explain why this should be, for we have the experience of other towns similarly situated where the death toll has run as high as 10 and 15 per cent. The immunity cannot be due to any advanced ideas on the best methods of safe guarding the public health for it is notorious that the local government could be vastly improved and a saving effected in the general cost of the service. One of the first results would be to remove scores of unsightly outhouses from the rear of the principal streets where fever breeders have existed ever since Tonopah was on the map. The disgraceful sight of slop strewn back streets would be banished and the city would be placed in clean and wholesome shape for the coming summer season when we all know the smells of privies and cesspools pollute the pure air of the desert and carry contagion on the wings of the wind. This is the time for the town board to act since it may be found necessary to secure some enabling legislation from the lawmakers at Carson City to enable the plan to be carried through on the strength of a bond issue extending over a long period of time and adjusted so that householders and property owners may secure the benefit of sewer connections on a graduated cost scale with the assistance of town funds which could be paid back in annual installments. This would avoid working a hardship to anyone. There is nothing novel about the practice which has been adopted universally in making local improvement such as paving, curbing, laying cement sidewalks and installing sewers in new additions of every large city in the west. The cost is levied against the property in that special district and made returnable, principal and interest in small amounts which could be met easily by the beneficiaries.

FIRST TO COME BACK

TONOPAH can sit up and pride itself on the era of prosperity that has come to its mines after battling for three years with adversity and low prices of silver. The white metal has come into its own and Tonopah producers are going to reap a harvest that will compensate for the lean years when silver ranged from 46 to 70 cents an ounce. The big companies that were enabled to store their product were rewarded for their faith with handsome profits which are variously estimated from \$900,000 to \$1,000,000, but there are better and richer rewards in store for those whose faith in the future of the camp never wavered for the Bonanza has the assurance of Frank Manson, purchasing agent of the Western Ore Purchasing company, that silver will not halt short of \$1.25 an ounce. This conviction is shared by other close observers of the market which anticipates a demand from the Orient that will enhance the value to \$1.25 an ounce. This conviction is shared by other close observers of the market which anticipates a demand from the Orient that will tax the capacity of all silver producers as fast as shipping can be diverted to regular channels of trade. These vessels will resume business with imports valued at millions of dollars, most of which will have to be met with silver exports. For almost four years there has been a stoppage of imports from the Orient and merchants are clamoring for silks, teas, coffee, spices, rugs, drugs, jute and sugar, all of which command fabulous prices owing to their depletion by current demand. These commodities will come by the shipload from silver-using countries and the bullion payments must come from the established camps of the western world. Development of the Gold Mountain district, known locally as the Divide country, adjacent to Tonopah, has begun to feel the incentive of this demand and no persuasion will be necessary to enlist capital in any legitimate development projected for that section. Low grade ores will be milled at a profit which could not be extracted two or three years ago and every producer will be able to clean up its stopes with a fine tooth comb to save every ounce of the white metal that can be added to the visible supply which will swell the payrolls and reduce the overhead expense of operating. The addition of more producers in the Divide district will count immensely in the business of absorbing idle labor but, for the present, it should become known on the outside that the Gold Mountain properties are yet in their infancy where only a limited number of men can be employed and where none but the highest class of skilled mine labor is wanted to acquire the greatest efficiency from the disbursement involved in doing dead work.

ELASTIC FINANCE

POSTMASTER GENERAL BURLISON has an easy way of compiling returns from the administration of telegraph and telephone lines. Less than one week ago he issued an official statement to the effect that the government can pay for all wire lines in ten years out of the saving the government makes in the service. That sounds good but, it should also be borne in mind that the govern-

ment begins by raising rates in order to care for running expenses. But, that's not all. Yesterday the same postmaster general, in arguing extension of government wire control told the house postoffice committee: "If I wanted to force government ownership, I would say turn back the wires for three months." He elucidated this conclusion by adding that many of the telephone companies were on the verge of bankruptcy from which they can escape only by the free use of government funds. The two statements hardly jibe. If these companies are making so much money that their entire cost and improvements would be liquidated in ten years the principal revenue makers cannot be in a highly dangerous position financially. These arguments are brought forth from time to time to suit the exigencies of the occasion but it does not take a searchlight to disclose the truth.

In another way the same statement applies to the railroads which the administration wants to hold in control over the period of the next presidential campaign. Loss of revenue is credited to the demoralization of traffic due to after war conditions and the readjustment the country is going through. The taxpayers are told that there is not enough business to keep the rolling stock in active service but, at the same time, the shortage in business does not conduce to any speedier methods of handling freights. Growers of citrus fruits in California and the early vegetable shippers of the semi-tropical farming belt say they are losing money daily through dilatory service in handling consignments between the Pacific and Atlantic seaboard. Oranges, lemons and early vegetables are from three to seven days longer in transit than during the most congested period under private ownership. Every railroad line in the country has its roundhouses filled with idle locomotives and the number of empty cars on the sidings have multiplied enormously. Under these circumstances it would seem that solid trains from the coast would be able to make excellent time and arrive at their destinations almost as speedily as passenger trains but that is not so and the complaints seem to bring no redress. So much for government ownership.

SUBSIDY FOR GOLD IS CALLED UNSOUND

(By Associated Press.)
 LONDON, Jan. 20.—"A subsidy for the production of gold appears to us to be fundamentally unsound," reports the gold production committee, consisting of Lord Inchcape, Sir Thomas Elliott, Sir Charles Addis-

and W. H. N. Goschen.

Early last year a committee called the gold producers committee advised the chancellor of the exchequer that unless the gold producing industry was helped, the already diminishing supply of gold must suffer and that the maintenance of the present gold standard of value might be met by a special grant of some kind.

The gold production committee, as quoted above, does not approve a subsidy, and further says the gold production of the empire rose steadily from £51,000,000 in 1910 to £59,000,000 in 1917. Although there has been a decline since, it is regarded as due to natural causes and decreased labor efficiency caused by the war.

THIRTY PERCENT OF NATIVES DIE

(By Associated Press.)
 JUNEAU, Alaska, Jan. 3.—(By Mail)—Governor Thomas Rigney, Jr., has appointed Carl Thiele health officer with headquarters at Marshall, on the Yukon river.

Reports to the governor's office from Frank H. Waskey of Marshall, Alaska's first delegate to congress, state that 30 per cent of the adult natives in the Kuskwini district, at Marshall and on Nelson Island have died of Spanish influenza. Conditions are serious throughout the district. Fr. Waskey reported.

BARMAIDS BARRED IN SALT LAKE CITY

(By Associated Press.)
 SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 28.—"Barmaids" in this city, even though they dispense only soft drinks, will not be tolerated, according to an edict just handed down by Chief of Police J. Parley White. Since Utah entered the prohibition column of states many soft drink parlors have employed women to take the place of men, allowing them to work behind bars where liquor formerly was sold. The custom, according to Chief White, had developed to such a point where he feared underworld practices might follow.

REWARD FOR THE BRITISH MARINE

(By Associated Press.)
 LIVERPOOL, Jan. 29.—J. Bruce Lomax, son of the founder of the White Star shipping line, has given £25,000 in war loan stock to inaugurate a "national mercantile marine fund," the object of which he says, "is to mark his admiration of the very splendid and gallant manner in which the officers and men of all ranks of the British mercantile marine have 'carried on' throughout the war."

The fund is intended primarily to provide grants or pensions to seamen and to provide for widows and orphans of British mariners.

Location notices, proofs of labor, certificates of location, for sale at the Bonanza office.

MICKIE SAYS

HELP! GIT THIS HERE SACK OFFEN ME BEFORE I CROAK! AN' BY HEK, I BET THE NEXT GUY WOT WANTS TO TRADE POTATOES, ER ANYTHIN' ELSE ON HIS SUBSCRIPTION IS GOIN' TO GIT BEANED WITH THE Mallet, TAKE IT FROM ME!



CONTRACTS FOR ROAD BUILDING AWARDED

Four contracts aggregating \$74,265.50 have been awarded by the Nevada department of highways for work on state highways in Churchill, Humboldt and Lyon counties.

On their bid at \$11,448, Parrott & Thompson were awarded the contract to build a reinforced concrete pile bridge over the Carson river in Churchill county.

Parrott & Thompson were also awarded the contract to build a reinforced girder bridge over the Truckee-Carson canal in Churchill county on their bid of \$7,449.20.

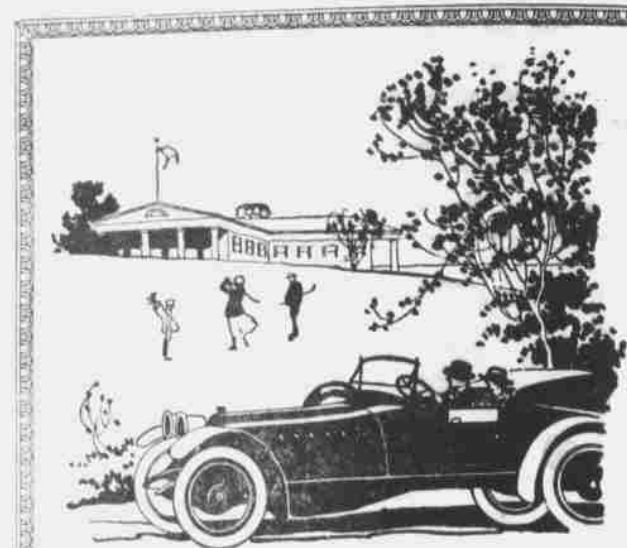
Neldt & Gash submitted the only bid for the contract to build a bulkhead on the Hudson-Avra road, which is part of the Wilson canyon road in Lyon county. The bid was \$24,814.80 and the department estimate \$23,462.45 and the firm was awarded the contract.

A reinforced concrete pile bridge over the Humboldt river near Kodak in Humboldt county will be built by Parrott & Thompson at a cost of \$10,953.60. The department estimate was \$10,882.50. Neldt & Gash bid \$12,784.30.

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